

Remarks

Claims 1-27 are pending and at issue in the above-identified patent application. Of the claims at issue, claims 1 and 18 are independent. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

In the Office action, various claims were rejected as being unpatentable over Chauvel (US 6,369,885) in view of Muto (US 5,799,129). It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-27 are allowable over these patents for the reasons set forth below.

In response to the final Office action, claims 1 and 18 have been amended to specify that the graphics accelerator is a graphics accelerator processor. Thus, the amendment addresses the characterization of the Muto frame buffer 2-3 as a graphics accelerator because the Muto frame buffer is merely memory and is not a graphics accelerator processor. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment is supported by the original specification.

It is respectfully submitted that no combination of Chauvel and Muto discloses or suggests the recitations of the claims, which are directed to apparatus and methods to play digitally recorded audiovisual data in reversed order. The claims recite receiving and decoding a portion of the digitally recorded audiovisual data. The decoder then stores the decoded portion in a decoder memory and subsequently transfers the decoded portion in non-reversed order to a graphics accelerator processor. The graphics accelerator processor then writes the audiovisual data to a graphics accelerator memory. Subsequently, the graphics accelerator processor, in response to a command, reads the decoded portion from the graphics accelerator memory in a reversed order for playback. It is respectfully submitted that the prior art does not disclose or suggest such a configuration and/or operation.

Chauvel is directed to audio and video decoding circuits and systems. To that end Chauvel discloses many circuit components such as an on-screen display module having hardware acceleration capabilities, and an A/V core having MPEG video decoding capabilities. While the background section of Chauvel generally mentions the notion of playing back audiovisual content in reversed order, it is respectfully submitted that Chauvel does not disclose or suggest that the reversed playback could or should be facilitated using a decoder with its associated memory and a graphics accelerator processor using its associated

memory, as recited in the pending claims. In fact, the concept of reversed playback is not even addressed with regard to the drawing/invention description in Chauvel.

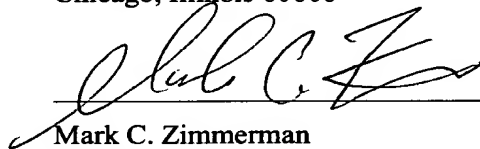
Muto is similarly deficient with regard to its disclosure relative to the claim language. While Muto discloses further detail regarding reversed playback, Muto does not disclose or suggest that a graphics accelerator processor and its associated memory could or should be used to facilitate such reverse playback. To the contrary, Muto discloses the use of a frame buffer, which is part of a decoder and, if anything, is the claimed decoder memory, for carrying out reverse playback.

Conclusion

Reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof are respectfully requested. If there is any matter that the examiner would like to discuss, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,
Hanley, Flight & Zimmerman, LLC
20 North Wacker Drive
Suite 4220
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Dated: February 8, 2006



Mark C. Zimmerman
Reg. No. 44,006
Attorney for Applicants
312.580.1020